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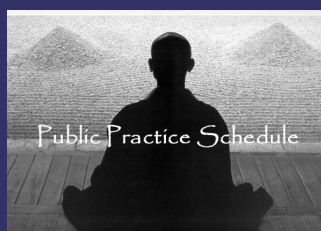
August 5, 2014

HSZC.org



Please help support Our Temple,
Dharma Study, Resident Student
Program & Our Practice Schedule &
Programs offered to the Public.

**Donations are tax
deductible**



Monday

7:00 am Zazen

7:40 am Morning Chanting Service

6:00 pm Zazen

6:40 pm Evening Chanting Service

Tuesday- Friday

Sangha e-Newsletter 2014



Vimalakirti's "Nonduality"

Introduction:

Even if one's subtle function is universal, there's a place where one can't even begin to act. Even if one's eloquence is unhindered, there's a time when one can't open one's mouth. Longya was like a handless man boxing, Jaishan made a tongueless man able to speak. Who is it who can extricate oneself midway?

Case:

Vimalakirti asked Manjusri, "What is a Bodhisattva's method of entering non-duality?"

Manjusri said, "According to my mind, in all things, no speech, no explanation, no direction and no representation, leaving behind all questions and answers—this is the method of entering non-duality."

Then Manjusri asked Vimalakirti, "We have each spoken. Now you should say, good man, what is a Bodhisattva's method of entry into non-duality?"

Vimalakirti was silent.

Verse:

6:00 am Zazen
 6:40 am Kinhin (walking meditation)
 6:50 am Zazen
 7:20 am Chanting Service
 7:40 am Soji (brief temple cleaning)

6:00 pm Zazen
 6:40 pm Chanting Service
Thursdays Study Hour 7:30pm

Saturday

6:30 am Zazen
 7:10 am Chanting Service
 7:25 am Soji
 8:30 am Drop-in instruction
 9:25 am Zazen
 10:15 am Dharma Talk
 11:00 am Refreshments/Social

*Manjusri inquires
 after the illness of
 the old Vaisalian;
 The gate of non-
 duality opens—
 Behold the adept.
 Crude without,
 pure within—who
 appreciates it?
 Forgetting 'before'
 and losing 'after',
 don't sigh.
 Struggling to
 present the gem—*



*the man with his feet cut off in the garden of Chu:
 Repaying with a jewel, shining bright—the cut snake of Sui.
 There are absolutely no flaws:
 Mundanity totally gone, that's still but a little.*

Book of Serenity / Hongzhi / Wansong / Tr. Thomas Cleary



HSZC / Valley Stream Practice week @ [Tassajara](#), secret & surprise birthday offering/gesture for HSZC Abbot, Valley Stream Guiding Teacher, former Tassajara

Tanto, Rev. Myo Lahey

- Photo: Shogen, [Tom Hawkins](#)



weekly meditation group for those
living with HIV, their friends,
families, community supporters &
anyone who wants to join us!
Thursdays & Fridays

10:30 am zazen

11:00 am garden socializing



Upcoming Events:

Dharma Talks - [Rev. Myō Lahey](#) - Aug 2,9,23 @10:15am

Guest Speaker Saturdays - August 16 [Hobu, Beata Chapman](#); August 30 [Tokuden Shinki, Mark Lancaster](#); October 11 [Laura Burges](#); November 1 [Jisan, Tova Green](#); November 29 [Anshi Daigi, Zachary Smith](#), December 27 [Tokuden Shinki, Mark Lancaster](#)

Full Moon Ceremony - Saturday, August 10 @ 11am - the Full Sturgeon, Red, Green Corn or Grain Moon.

Winter Study Period - is planned to kick off around Sejiki (End of October) and run through Rohatsu and the Winter Light 5 day retreat (Early December) -- similar to a practice period --

Sangha Council - August 16, 2014

Founder's Memorial - Issan's Memorial is generally on the 6th of the month, & the memorial for Philip Whalen is generally on the 26th @ 6:40pm

Study Hour - Thursdays @7:30pm: the Vimalakīrti Sūtra, also called Vimalakīrtinirdeśa Sūtra. There are multiple translations, we may focus a bit on the Dr Robert Thurman version, but welcome any version to compare the translations. We can share books for anyone who wants to join in, or feel free to purchase a copy and join us (many are very low cost online). Check our [twitter page](#) for any changes in schedule.

Next Board of Directors' Meeting - Second Wednesdays of the month August 13 @ 7:30pm You're welcome to attend & observe.

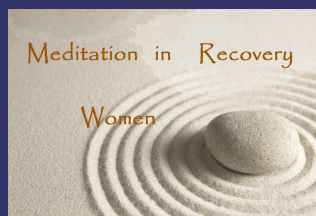
Words From Our Abbot: Rev Myō Lahey

Last night I was reading some of W.H. Auden poems, and I ran across that famous line of his: "If equal affection cannot be, Let the more loving one be me." Somebody commented that this seemed kind of bleak. Yes, we all know about that common situation. Yet, in that quote, I heard some echo of the Bodhisattva vow. In that the main concern is not constantly circling back to a



weekly meditation group for men
& women in recovery from
addiction

Fridays, 7:30 pm - 9 pm



(Women only)
monthly meditation group for
women in recovery from addiction.

First Thurs, 7:15 pm -8:45 pm

constantly turning outward. It's a puzzle whether there is such a thing as "equal affection." I'm not sure if we can even figure that out. Let the more loving one's be us. In the face of our human situation, that might be a challenge.

I sometimes depend on the New Yorker magazine for Dharma talk material, and a recent issue has a cartoon of a guy who is waking up in the morning, and sitting on this window sill is the so-called bluebird of nothingness. The bluebird of nothingness is reciting its little act which consists of saying things like "there is no essential self," and "the universe is silent," and "human life is absurd." I suppose this is the opposite of the bluebird of happiness, which I would guess says, "yes, there is a self" and "the world is great" and so forth. If a Buddhist looks at that kind of a cartoon, a Buddhist might think about the bird of emptiness, yes, this is pretty good. The sound of liberation is in what the bluebird is chatting about.

That there is no essential self is a wide-open door. The silence of the universe is profoundly peaceful. The Zen people could probably even be ok with "life is absurd." To find our seat in the midst of this at time awkward and painful life is what practice is all about. Eventually, the liberating quality of that practice becomes available to others without our making a big show about it.

[HSZC talk June 2014](#)

HSZC Study Hour (Thursdays @7:30pm) - WE COMPLETED THE BOOK OF SERENITY, and now on to the **Vimalakīrti Sūtra**, also called Vimalakīrtinirdeśa Sūtra, a Mahāyāna Buddhist *sūtra*. It dates from no later than the 3rd century ce, based on its earliest Chinese translations, and most likely from the 1st or 2nd centuries ce.

In the *sūtra* the layman and householder Vimalakīrti, who is also, significantly, a model bodhisattva, instructs deities, learned Buddhist arahants, and lay people in all matters concerning the nature of enlightenment and Buddhist truth.

This is a short sutra so we will be on to likely a longer text soon, updates on this, to come!

We are thrilled to announce that Hartford Street Zen Center has been selected as a beneficiary of [The Castro Street Fair 2014](#). Please mark your calendars for Sunday 5 October!

As a beneficiary we get paid a percentage of the total donations received by the fair for every hour that every person volunteers at the Fair. The online registration went live in July. We can have up to 50 volunteers -- plenty of opportunity to invite friends, family, neighbors. The funds raised will go toward repairing and INSULATING the zendo floor! Making the warmth of our practice even more tangible and lessening our resource use on our fragile Mother Earth. Please join in a fun day of FUN*draising for Hartford Street Zen Center!

Looking forward to a great [Castro Street Fair 2014](#) with you!



WINTER STUDY PERIOD

This winter we will have a study period. This event is similar to a [practice period](#) and plans to kick off after Sejiki (End of October, start of November) and run through Rohatsu and the Winter Light 5 day retreat (start of December).

Because we are primarily a lay sangha (community) and organization, attendance to the full practice period schedule is not an option for most, we will take the practice period model and make some adjustments.

We ask individuals offer to commit to a routine they can uphold. We would like as we get closer to the start of this period, to know what you can join us for and encourage all to participate. Some of the study period require attendance planning. Please inform us as early as you can before the period begins. A deadline will be later communicated. We look forward to concentrated practice opportunity with you!

Other Holidays or LGBTQ! Events:

[Additional LGBTQ! Events](#)

Or [found here](#)



Seeking a **LGBTQ!**, **Buddhist** space **for your wedding**? HSZC & Abbot Rev. Myō Lahey can be a part of this amazing & love filled ceremony. HSZC can house your Zen Buddhist Wedding ceremony & Rev Myō can perform weddings! Please email

hszc108@yahoo.com, call us, or a better way yet is to stop in & discuss



during our publicly open hours.

Abbot, Hartford Street Zen Center (HSZC) --- Reverend Myō Lahey



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Please submit stories, reflections, personal news, artwork & photography for future newsletters to

KeiDo at tetsugen.keido@yahoo.com

May this newsletter find you well & equanimous! __/|__